

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph at page 1, lines 7-13 as follows:

The present invention concerns the construction of new strains useful in a method for selecting a molecule, a kit therefor, a method for screening a molecule, a kit therefor, and a signal amplification system comprising a bacterial multi-hybrid system. More particularly, the present invention relates to improvements to the technique referred as a multi-hybrid system described in PCT application No. WO 99/28746, published on June 10, 1999. This technology is also described in *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* in 1998, 95(10) pages 5752-5756 (~~Karimova et al.~~) (Karimova et al.).

Please amend the paragraph at page 21, line 16 (the paragraph immediately before Table 2) as follows:

All ~~XX~~ positive clones were sequenced. Clone identification is shown in Table 2. In Tables 2 and 3 "clone" is an abbreviation of "clone number"; "Strand" refers to the orientation of the clone, and is indicated as clockwise by the abbreviation "C" in the strand column, or as counterclockwise by the abbreviation "W" in the strand column; "Osize" means "ORF size"; and "Phase" refers to whether the open reading frame is cloned in phase, as indicated by the abbreviation "IF" in the phase column, or out of phase, as indicated by the abbreviation "OOF" in the phase column.

Please amend the paragraph at page 28, lines 18-22 as follows:

The International Patent Applications **[[n°]] No.** WO 96/23898 (Thastrup O. et al.) and **[[n°]] No.** WO 97/11094 (Thastrup O. et al.), respectively, relating to a method of detecting biologically active substances as Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP), and the International Patent Application **[[n°]] No.** WO 97/07463 (Chalfie M. et al.) describing the uses of GFP, are herein incorporated by reference, and a novel variant of GFP.

Please delete the abstract as filed and replace it with the attached new abstract.